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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/030,566	01/07/2002	George von Samson-Himmelstjerna	Mo-6878/LcA 33,759	8763

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EXAMINER

SITTON, JEHANNE SOUAYA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1634

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/030,566

Applicant(s)

SAMSON-HIMMELSTJERNA ET AL.

Examiner

Jehanne Souaya Sitton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 and 40-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 and 40-46 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted. Additionally, each group named below, is subject to further restriction (see section 3 below).

Group 1, claim(s) 1-19, 28-29, 32-34, drawn to nucleic acids, vectors, and host cells.

Group 2, claim(s) 20-26, drawn to polypeptides.

Group 3, claim(s) 27, drawn to a process for preparing any polypeptide (if applicants amend the claim to a specific polypeptide, applicants are requested to elect a specific polypeptide).

Group 4, claim(s) 30-31, drawn to processes for detecting nucleic acids.

Group 5, claim(s) 35-37, and 46, drawn to antibodies.

Group 6, claim(s) 38, drawn to a vaccine.

Group 7, claim(s) 40-43, drawn to a method for identifying substances which modulate the interaction of tubulin.

Group 8, claim(s) 44-45, drawn to a substance which modulates tubulin.

2. The inventions listed as Groups 1-8 do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special

technical features for the following reasons: Group 3, for example, is drawn to a process for preparing any polypeptide by expressing the polypeptide in any prokaryotic or eukaryotic system. As polypeptides have been prepared in such a manner well before the instant invention was filed, such does not represent a special technical feature over the art. Accordingly, the groups lack the same or corresponding special technical feature.

The products of groups 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8 are structurally and functionally different molecules that lack the same or corresponding special technical feature. The nucleic acid of group 1 is composed of deoxyribonucleotides linked by phosphodiester bonds and assumes the form of a double helix. The polypeptide of group 2 is composed of amino acids linked by peptide bonds and can assume complex tertiary structures. While the antibody of group 5 is also composed of amino acids linked by peptide bonds, antibodies are glycosylated and their tertiary structure is unique, where four subunits (2 light chains and 2 heavy chains) associate via disulfide bonds into a Y-shaped symmetric dimer. The vaccine of group 6 is a composition that comprises components for prevention, or therapy for a particular disease and contains additional structurally and functionally distinct reagents from groups 1, 2 and 5. Additionally, the substance that modulates tubulin of group 8, is not specifically defined in the claims and could therefore be any substance that is structurally and functionally distinct from the groups listed. The products of groups 1-2, 5-6, and 8 can be used in materially different processes, for example the DNA of group 1 can be used in hybridization assays, the antibody of group 5 can be used in immunoassays, and the polypeptide of group 2 can be used to make a fusion protein with an enzymatic function, the vaccine of group 6 can be used to illicit an immune response and the compound of group 8 can be used to inhibit tubulin. Consequently, the reagents, reaction

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conditions, and reaction parameters required to make or use each invention are different.

The methods of groups 3, 4, and 7 lack the same or corresponding special technical feature because the methods require different steps that require different reagents, reaction conditions and reaction parameters from each of the other methods.

The products of groups 5, 6, and 8 lack the same or corresponding special technical feature as the methods of groups 3, 4, and 7 because the methods of groups 3, 4, and 7 do not require the products of groups 5, 6, and 8.

The method of group 7 and the product of group 2 lack the same or corresponding special technical feature as the methods of groups 7 because the product of group 2 can be used in a materially different process such as making a fusion protein with enzymatic function.

The products of group 2 lacks the same or corresponding special technical feature as the methods of groups 3 and because the methods of groups 3, and 4 do not require the product of group 2.

The product of group 1 lacks the same or corresponding special technical feature as the methods of group 7 and because the method of group 7 does not require the product of group 1.

The method of groups 3 and 4 and the product of group 1 lack the same or corresponding special technical feature because the product of group 1 can be used in a materially different process such as constructing probes or primers which is not required for the method of group 3, or expressing a protein which is not required for the method of group 4.

3. Additionally, each group named above is subject to further restriction. Applicant is required to further elect a specific SEQ ID NO. This is NOT an election of species. Nucleotide sequences encoding different proteins are structurally distinct chemical compounds and are

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unrelated to one another. These sequences are thus deemed to normally constitute independent and distinct inventions within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 121. Absent evidence to the contrary, each such nucleotide sequences are presumed to represent an independent and distinct invention, subject to restriction requirement pursuant to 35 USC 121 and 37 CFR 1.141. By statute, “[i]f two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in one application, the Commissioner may require the application to be restricted to one of the inventions.” 35 U.S.C. 121. Pursuant to this statute, the rules provide that “[i]f two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in a single application, the examiner in his action shall require the applicant... to elect that invention to which his claim shall be restricted.” 37 CFR 1.142 (a). See also 37 CFR 1.141(a). It is noted that searching more than one of the claimed patentably distinct sequences represents a serious burden for the office.

4. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

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In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.**

5. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the

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application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Jehanne Sitton whose telephone number is (571) 272-0752. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion, can be reached on (571) 272-0782. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547.

Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.

For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199.

Jehanne Sitton

Jehanne Sitton
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1634

6/28/04